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Declassify if Recommended Action is Approved

18 May 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Secretary, CIA Management Committee
THROUGH : SAIC *g*
THROUGH : Office of General Counsel
SUBJECT : Additional Classification Review of NSC 48/2,
The Position of the US with Respect to Asia,
30 Dec 1949

1. This memorandum requests permission to withdraw CIA objections to the declassification of a reference to covert action in subject NSC report, said sentence having already been disclosed in the official US Government edition of the Pentagon Papers.

2. In the review of NSC 48/2 completed on 5 January 1973, CIA objected to the declassification of only one sentence. This sentence, which concludes a paragraph that discusses the exploitation of rifts between the Chinese Communists and the USSR and rifts between Stalinists and other elements in China, reads as follows:

"...Where appropriate, covert as well as overt means should be utilized to achieve these objectives."
-79 LEM, para 3(f)3.

3. Following the original review, CIA concurred in the declassification of NSC 48/2, except the above sentence (unsigned to State, 5 Jan. 1973 ER 72-4889/2). State has now requested a review of this decision on the ground that all of NSC 48/2 has been published in the US Government edition of the Pentagon Papers (United States-Vietnam Relations, 1945-1967, US Government Printing Office, 1971, VIII, 265-272, at 270). Comparison of the texts of the two versions (xerox copies attached) confirms that the sentence in question has in fact been published in the US Government edition of the Pentagon Papers. Mr.

Office of the General Counsel, advises that

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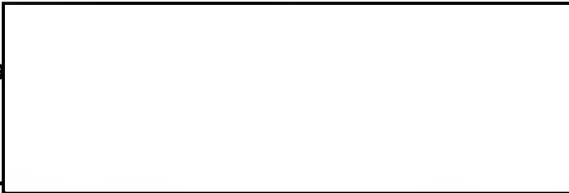
publication of these papers constituted declassification. It is therefore recommended that permission be given to withdraw CIA's objection to the declassification of the sentence quoted above in paragraph 3 of this memorandum. A draft letter to State is enclosed.



Bernard Drell
Chief, CIA Historical Staff

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W. E. Colby
Executive Secretary, CIA Management Committee

1 Jun 73

Date

Attachments

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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:

Chief, CIA Historical Staff
203 Key Bldg.

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1. SAIC

23 May 24/73

CA

2. OGC

5/24/73 6/24

RVL

Executive Secretary,
CIA Management Cmt

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4. ~~CIA Historical Staff~~

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To 5:

Per Mr. Colby's advice,
he asked that you review for
approval or disapproval.

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